



Proclamation

WHEREAS, *The Senate of the State of Texas recognized May, 2005 as Better Speech and Hearing Month; and,*

WHEREAS, *Communication is the sharing of thoughts and ideas with one another, a skill involving thought, comprehension, and speaking; and,*

WHEREAS, *Effective communication depends on healthy physical and mental faculties; and whereas the early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of physical and mental impairments may prevent a disorder from developing into a lifelong handicap; and,*

WHEREAS, *To this end Dr. Erik Sloman-Moll purchased state-of-the-art equipment and has acquired trained staff for the sole purpose of screening infant hearing; and,*

WHEREAS, *In September of 1999 an Infant hearing screening program was established with 1,131 babies having been tested since then; approximately five infants in need of medical attention for hearing loss and/or amplification having been identified; and, without which, such children might have gone unidentified for years thereby missing developmental milestones in their speech and language; and,*

WHEREAS, *The month of May has been designated as Better Speech and Hearing Month by the American Academy of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists in order to enhance public awareness of the prevalence among the general public of communicative disorders with as many as 20 million Americans currently laboring under some degree of hearing loss; and,*

WHEREAS, *Better Speech and Hearing Month is an opportunity to make the public aware of the rights of the hard-of-hearing and of the current legislation in place regarding the detection of hearing loss in infants;*

NOW, THEREFORE I, Louis H. Bruni, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the State of Texas as Webb County Judge, and on behalf of the Webb County Commissioner's Court, do hereby proclaim May 2005:

"Better Speech and Hearing Month"

In Webb County, Texas and commend Dr. Erik Sloman-Moll and his office for their important speech and hearing programs and encourage all Texans to join organizations across the country in observing "Better Speech and Hearing Month."

*In Witness whereof, We have hereunto signed our names officially and caused the
Official*

Seal of Webb County, Texas to be affixed on this 6th day of May, 2005.

The Honorable Frank Sciaraffa
Webb County Commissioner Pct. 1

The Honorable Louis H. Bruni
Webb County Judge

The Honorable Judith G. Gutierrez
Webb County Commissioner Pct. 2

The Honorable Jerry Garza
Webb County Commissioner Pct. 3

The Honorable Cindy Cortez Brunner
Webb County Commissioner Pct. 4